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PATENT

P-4537D1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: David E. Lawrence

Art Unit: 2857

Serial No.: Divisional of
09/397,357

Examiner: Miller, Craig S.

Filing Date: September 15, 1999

For: **SYSTEMS, METHODS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR
CONSTRUCTING SAMPLING PLANS FOR ITEMS THAT ARE
MANUFACTURED**

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Before the above-identified divisional application is taken up for examination, entry of the following amendment is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **cancel** Claims 1-10, 20-27 and 35-42 without prejudice.

IN THE SPECIFICATON

At page 4, line 18 to page 5, line 21 please replace the section "Brief Description of the Drawings" with the following:

--Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a simplified block diagram of systems, methods and computer program products for constructing sampling plans for items that are manufactured according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a flowchart illustrating operations for calculating a required sample size according to the present invention.

Figure 3 is a flowchart illustrating operations for determining a bias-corrected percentile grid according to the present invention.